ANTIQUARIAN NOTES:

MAINLY OF MEN AND MATTERS

CONNECTED WITH THE

CHURCHES

ON THE ROLL OF THE

NATIONAL CONFERENCE.

FOUNDED A.D. 1882.

—o—

1904.

VOL. III. PART 25.

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A.B.; K.B.; J.W.—Thanks.

Editor, Tanybryn, Aberystwyth.

FRANCES POWER COBBE.

ANTIQUARIAN NOTES.

1904.

VOL. III. No. 25.

Charles Beard, B.A., LL.D.

INTERESTING REMINISCENCES BY MISS F. P. COBBE.

Hengwrt,
Dolgelley,
N. Wales,
Feb. 15, 1904.

Dear Mr. Evans,

I am greatly obliged to you for giving me 'Antiquarian Notes' with the excellent portrait of my old friend, Mr. Beard. It is a pleasure to me to look at his fine face again. As I remarked to you, when you paid me your very pleasant and cheering visit last week, this portrait does not convey the extraordinary breadth of Mr. Beard's

forehead; and it is also more sad in expression than he was when I knew him. But what a noble head and countenance it is! It would be hard to name a nobler.

My acquaintance with Mr. Beard was almost limited to the relations of a contributor to an editor. If my recollection serves me rightly, I wrote articles for his 'Theological Review' almost from the starting of it; and of all the many editors with whom in those busy years I had to do—from the 'Quarterly' to the 'Echo'—he was far the best,—the most sympathizing and encouraging, and most patient. He came to London every year, and used to come and see me and lunch at our house, and I once lunched at his house in Liverpool; but I never had the great privilege (as I should have deemed it) of hearing him preach. His clear brain and profoundly religious spirit proved themselves in everything he wrote or said.

Very cordially, Dear Mr. Evans,

Yours,

FRANCES POWER COBBE.

P.S.—If you care to use this letter in any way, pray do so.

[This letter was being set on Tuesday, 5th April, when word reached me that its writer had that morning greeted "the unseen with a cheer."—ED.]

The Bache Family.

The printing, by the Shropshire Parish Register Society, in its recent issue of "Nonconformist Registers," of the first register kept by the congregation worshipping in Stoneway Chapel, Bridgnorth, has given us many entries concerning the family which numbers amongst its members Sarah Bache, the hymn writer; Samuel Bache, Unitarian minister; Edward and Walter Bache, the "Brother Musicians," and their sister, Constance Bache, translator of the letters of Liszt and Bülow, and of Wolfrum's "Christmas Mystery" performed at the last Hereford Festival. Stoneway Chapel, where so many of the family found their spiritual home, was built in 1709, and stood for 120 years, when it gave place to the present building. It was a quaint double gabled structure, after the fashion of Matthew Henry's Chapel, still used at Chester. The roof was supported by two large pillars, rising from the middle of the building. A painting of it by Philip Brown, of Shrewsbury, is yet extant. In the year 1767, William Maurice was chosen minister, and on the 10th October he opens his register with a list of names, headed—

The State of the Society at Bridgnorth, upon my Settling amongst them.

Out of the 71 names in his list, no less than 16 pertain to this family. As entered they are :—

Mr. John Bache, Weyken, Member
Mr. Thos. Bache, baker, „
Mr. T. Bache, Park, Sen. „
Mr. J. Bache, Swancott, „
Mr. T. Bache, Jun., Park, „
Mrs. Bache, Weyken, „
Mrs. Bache, Sen., Park, „
Mrs. Bache, B'north, „
Polly Bache, children
Thos. Bache, „
Jacky Bache, „
Mrs. Bache, Park, Jun., Member
Mrs. Bache, Swancott, „
Miss Bache, Weyken, „
Miss Betsy Bache, the Mill, „
Mr. Sam. Bache, „

A list of *Quarter's Collection paid Midsummer, 1782, by Mr. Bache*, who was evidently the treasurer of the congregation, gives us these items :—

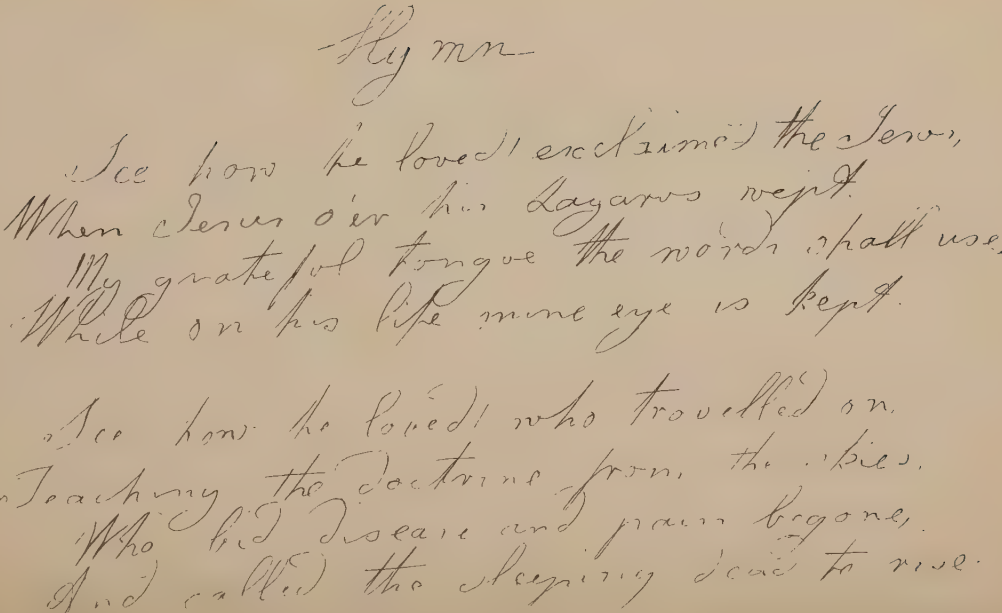
John Bache, Senr.	*£0*	*10*	*0*
Thomas Bache, Park	*0*	*10*	*0*
John Bache, Junr.	*0*	*5*	*0*
Samuel Bache	*0*	*5*	*0*
Thomas Bache, baker	*1*	*0*	*0*

SARAH BACHE,

HYMN WRITER.

B. 1 August, 1770; d. 23 July, 1844.

From a miniature—original size—by F. Cruikshank Plate lent by Mr. A. Weight Matthews, author of 'Life of Sarah Bache,' 1900.


Hymn
See how he loved! exclaim'd the Jews,
When Jesus o'er his Lazarus wept.
My grateful tongue the words shall use,
While on his life mine eye is kept.
See how he loved! who travelled on,
Teaching the doctrine from the skies,
Who bid disease and pain be gone,
And called the sleeping dead to rise.
A W Matthews
Chs

SARAH BACHE'S HOLOGRAPH.

John Bache, Senr.	*0*	*15*	*0*
John Bache, Junr.	*0*	*3*	*0*
Thomas Bache, baker	*0*	*2*	*3*

Other entries preserve these particulars :—

Mr. Samuel Bache, admitted a member, 8 March, 1772.

Miss Betsy Bache, at the same time.

Mrs. Sam. Bache, baker, was joined a member of the Church, 14 Sept., 1772.

Two marriages are also noted :—

Mr. Samuel Bache to Miss Martha Wyke, of Leominster, Herefordshire, ——— in Scotland, 27 June, 1772.

Mr. George Rhodes to Miss Betsy Bache, of Weyken, at the Low Church, Bridgnorth, 11 Nov., 1772.

Amongst the baptismal entries are :—

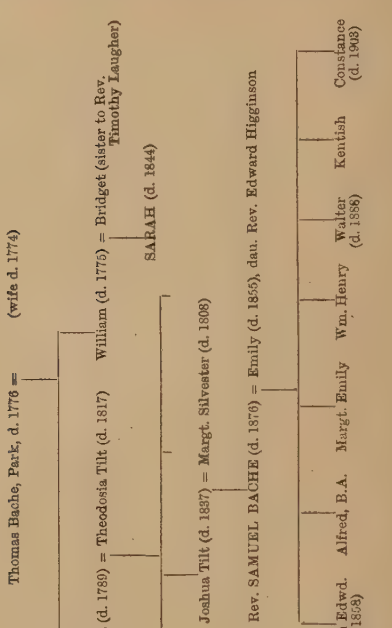
1769. Sarah Bache, Park, 13 Oct.

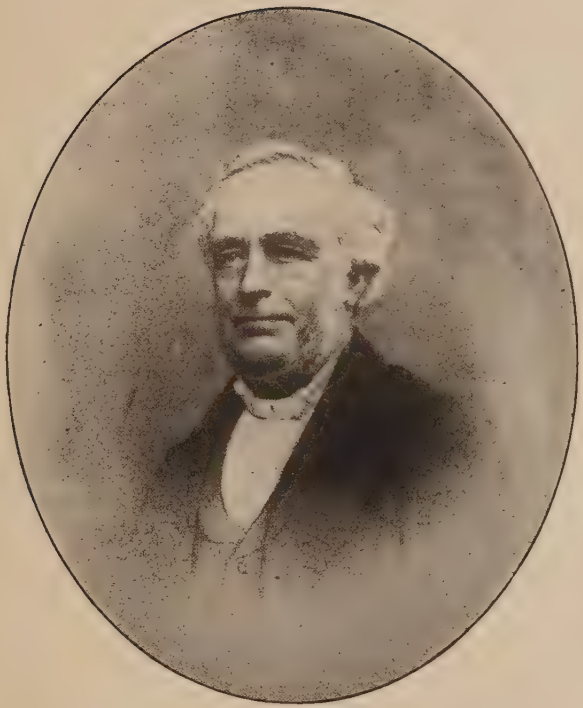
This "Sarah" must not be confounded with Sarah, the hymn writer, who was born at Bromsgrove, 1 August, 1770.

Thomas, s. Thomas and Theodosia Bache, Junr., Park, bap. 3 March, 1773, in the presence of many witnesses.

Joshua Tilt, s. Thomas and Theodosia Bache, Park, 23 Dec., 1774.

He became the father of Samuel, the Unitarian minister, and died 28th Oct., 1837 ; thus runs the pedigree :—


Thomas Bache, Park, d. 1778 = (wife d. 1774)
Thomas (d. 1789) = Theodosia Tilt (d. 1817)
William (d. 1775) = Bridget (sister to Rev. Timothy Laugher)
SARAH (d. 1844)
Joshua Tilt (d. 1837) = Margt. Silvester (d. 1808)
Rev. SAMUEL BACHE (d. 1876) = Emily (d. 1865), dau. Rev. Edward Higginson
Francis Edwd. (d. 1868)
Alfred, B.A.
Margt. Emily
Wm. Henry
Walter (d. 1898)
Kentish
Constance (d. 1903)



SAMUEL BACHE.

Block lent by his son, the Rev. Kentish Bache, Vicar of Walford-on-Wye.

Samuel Bache was baptized on 20 February, 1805, the entry in the register being :—

> *1805. Samuel, s. Joshua Tilt and Margaret Bache (b. 24 Dec. 1804), 20 Feb. by D. Davies.*

Davies was a Llanybyther man, and an alumnus of the Presbyterian College, Caermarthen. He died in 1807, and was buried in Stoneway Chapel, where he had ministered from 1803.

The congregation in Birmingham, of which Samuel Bache was minister from the 15 July, 1832, to June, 1868, is that worshipping in the Church of the Messiah, opened on 1 January, 1862. It dates from the year 1692, its second meeting-place being burnt in 1791 by the rioters, anxious to wreak their vengeance upon its minister, the Rev. Dr. Joseph Priestley, F.R.S. Its third meeting-house, opened on 22 July, 1802, was visited that summer by the Welsh bard, Iolo Morganwg (d. 1826), on his walk to Cowbridge from London. In his note book he has entered :—

> *Visited the new Unitarian Chapel in New Meeting-house Street; a fine, well-built structure, plain and simple, of well wrought freestone ashlar; pews, good oak, large and comfortable. A pretty large room for a Library. Could not easily find out where Mr. Edwards* [Dr. Priestley's successor as minister] *lived; and afterwards could not see him. Misunderstanding between*

him and the Seniors of the Society. I was sorry to hear it. Why should he concern himself with Houghton and Pinkerton?

The Church of the Messiah, in which is placed the memorial window, here pictured, to Edward Bache, has long held a foremost place amongst Birmingham churches; it numbers in its congregation Mr. Joseph Chamberlain—for many years an active worker in its schools; and to its minister, Samuel Bache, in conjunction with his friend, Canon Miller, the city is indebted for the starting of its Hospital Sunday.

Its registers begin in 1735: there are several regiments mentioned in its first pages:—

Anne, dan. of George and May Caldwall Todd, of Genl. Tatton's Regiment, bap. 29 Sept. 1735.

John, s. James and Mary Caldwall, Sergt. of Georgia Regiment, bap. 17 Ap. 1739.

John, s. Alexander and Jane Mackachie, Soldie in Colonel Pulteney's regt., bapt. 12 Nov. 1740.

Anne, dau. Moses and Anne Merry, Soldier in Genl. Cholmondly's regt., bapt. 12 Oct. 1743.

These entries were made by Thomas Pickard, minister 1705—1747. The four silver chalices bear the assay letter, London, 1782-83, and have been used by Dr.

MEMORIAL WINDOW
TO
FRANCIS EDWARD BACHE,
IN THE CHURCH OF THE MESSIAH, BIRMINGHAM.

Block lent by his brother, Alfred Bache, B.A.

Priestley—in whose ministry they were bought on 18 November, 1782—and his successors to this day.

One element of Samuel Bache's nature must not be overlooked—his strong but quiet sense of humour. The Church of the Messiah is built over a canal, and its situation gave rise to much witticism at the time of its opening, principally in the pages of the 'Town Crier,' then just started.

> Disdaining Moor Street as their place of birth,
> Disdaining now, it seems, their mother Earth,
> This arch-heretical and Arian flock
> Erect a Church not 'founded on a rock.'
> Appropriate site for such a sect 'twill prove,
> Though damp below, quite dry enough above.

"Certainly," writes his biographer, "Mr. Bache's sermons were never dry, as overflowing congregations testified. But he enjoyed a joke as much as any man, even though it were at his own expense. He was a match for his rhyming critic, as the following lines witness, which he speedily penned in reply":—

> Yes, on the rock we're built, Mr. Town Crier,
> Who says we're not proclaims himself a ——
> Not we, but Birmingham, Moor Street disdain,
> Nor Arian we, though Constantine should reign.
> Heretical we are, and so was Paul,
> And so are you, good Christians, one and all.
> The site appropriate you justly deem;
> Beneath us flows our trade's enriching stream,
> Which, with propriety, you 'damp' may call,
> When you would so describe a waterfall.

'Quite dry enough above'—we thank you. True,
Most clearly in dry light all things we view.
Thus in Messiah's name our Church we raise,
Assured 'twill long outlive your sneering, witty lays.

Miss Constance Bache, whose recent passing at Montreux (28 June, 1903) is yet fresh in our memories, was the authoress of "Brother Musicians," being reminiscences of her brothers Edward and Walter Bache. Like them, she adopted music as her profession, and had studied at Munich Conservatory. Her later years were largely devoted to the work of translation, and she made English versions of some hundreds of songs.

The "Life of Sarah Bache" was written and printed by her kinsman, Mr. Arthur Weight Matthews, in 1900, fifty-six signed copies only being issued. It contains a large amount of historical and genealogical information, not available elsewhere.

London: Carter Lane Chapel.

(Continued from p. 59).

Persons admitted to ye Communion at Meeting-place in Carter Lane, by Thomas Newman.

March 6th, 1747-8. Miss Isabella Brogden, dau. to Rev. Mr. Brogden, in Leicestershire.

Jany. 7th, 1749-50. Mr. Lane, and wife; a master in Chancery, Boswell Court, in full communion.

June 3rd, 1750. Mr. Sam. Symmonds, recommended by Mr. Job Orton, of Shrewsbury.

[*Samuel Symmonds, senr., d. 21 Dec., 1763, aged 67 years.* Cf. entry partly in Orton's handwriting, in "A List of the members of the Church of Christ, assembled at the Chappell in the High Street, Shrewsbury, 1741"; and printed in "Midland Churches," 1899, p. 185.]

April 7th, 1751. Mr. Holand, in Communion with Mr. Job Orton, at Shrewsbury.

[Name not in Orton's list.]

July 6th, 1755. Ann Coates (servant to Miss Mary Offley), who hath been in Communion at Mansfield, Notts.

Another interesting set of entries in the register is that giving the

Collections at Carter Lane Meeting-house, for necessary expenses.

It begins on the 28th December, 1746, and ends on the 26th March, 1758. The first amount reads—

Morn		*9*	*7*	*2*
Afternoon		*3*	*15*	*0*
		£13	*2*	*2*

The last is	*M.*	*12*	*10*	*0*
	A.	*3*	*3*	*0*
		£15	*13*	*0*

All the amounts are of about the same sum.

Then come particulars of the annual collection

For the Fund.

22 Feb., 1746-7.

At the doors in the morning	*122*	*15*	*6*
Do. afternoon	*46*	*6*	*0*
Mrs. Holden sent	*21*	-	-
Mr. Brogden „	*1*	*16*	-
Several „	*28*	*10*	-
	£220	*7*	*6*

The total amount collected in the twelve years, 1747—1758, was **£2978 2s. 2d.** Every year Mrs. Holden sent her twenty guineas.

The amount collected annually by the same congregation for the twelve years, 1891—1902, for the funds of the B. & F. U. A., was **£124 8s. 8d.**

ABERYSTWYTH :
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